

2.0 R E C O N N A I S S A N C E S U R V E Y U P D A T E S

2.0 RECONNAISSANCE SURVEY UPDATES

Identified historic resources, related themes, and associated property types were presented in the *Historic Context and Reconnaissance Survey Report* dated July 2005 (A.D. Marble & Company 2005) and revised July 2006 (A.D. Marble & Company 2006). A brief summary of that effort is provided below for the reader's convenience.

2.1 Summary of Historic Context Preparation and Reconnaissance Survey

To prepare the July 2005 report, previous work relevant to the historical development of the APE was examined, including the Cultural Resource Survey (CRS) forms on file at the DE SHPO. Background research involved a review of primary and secondary resources available in local repositories, including the DE SHPO, the DelDOT Archives, and the University of Delaware. Many previous studies with relevance to the area were identified. A reconnaissance survey of the area was conducted to field verify previously documented or evaluated resources, identify new resources, and identify resource types. Through the synthesis of the previous studies and the results of the reconnaissance survey, the historical development of the area was established and relevant property types and registration requirements were developed.

The results of the background research indicated that the built environment of the APE is reflective of its history during the Early Industrialization (1770-1830±), Industrialization and Early Urbanization (1830-1880±), Urbanization and Early Suburbanization (1880-1940±), Suburbanization and Early Ex-urbanization (1940-1960±), and Deurbanization and Sprawl (1960-2000±) periods, as defined by the DE SHPO. The last period, not previously identified by the DE SHPO, was developed for the purposes of the intensive level survey which evaluated all above-ground resources present by 1962. The context identified significant local and state historical themes regarding agriculture, residential architecture, transportation, community development, commercial development, industry, and African-American history and culture. The context further identified the associated property types and registration requirements for the resources that may relate to each of these significant historical themes.

2.2 Supplemental Historic Context Information

Since the publication of the reconnaissance report, the Project Team and the DE SHPO have consulted, and the Project Team revised the report to more clearly define the resources and how the National Register Criteria for Evaluation (36 CFR 60) should be applied in their evaluation. The revised Section 8.0 was provided to the DE SHPO in August of 2005 and the entire revised report was finalized in July of 2006.

During the June 29, 2005 meeting of the Project Team and DE SHPO staff, it was decided that further investigations specific to 1) the African-American community and 2) the rural landscape would be included in the eligibility report. The purpose of these investigations was to assist in the accurate assessment of eligibility of the African-American Rural Community and the Rural Historic District property types, as identified in the U.S. 301 context report. The findings of the additional research efforts are included in Section 5.0 of this report.